

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 20, 2006 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 57, and 77 are amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 89-91 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added. Claims 1-41, 43-55 and 57-83 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 4-19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28-31, 34-41, 43-46, 57, 58, 60-72, 74, 75, 77-79, 82 and 83 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over US Patent No. 5,733,131 to Park (Park), in view of US Patent Publication No. 2005/0111823 to Dureau (Dureau), in further view of US Patent No. 5,600,364 to Hendricks et al. (Hendricks). The Office Action took the position that Park discloses all of the features recited in the above claims except for the feature of storing information regarding the user's personal interests or preferences, which the Office Action asserted is disclosed in Dureau, and the feature of disclosing different data associated with the program is transported from a remote management unit to a different user with different personal interests or preferences, which the Office Action asserted is disclosed in Hendricks. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2, 4-7, 11, 16-19, 21, 22, 24, 34, 35 and 43-45 depend, recites a method for presenting a program for a user. Information is stored regarding the personal interests or preferences for a plurality of users in a remote management unit. A programmer representation device is provided with a program signal by means of a program signal broadcasting system. The program is presented to the user based on the program signal. In response to a predefined event, data is transported associating with the program between the remote management unit and a user devices operable by the users while experiencing the program and for inputting information. The transportation occurs over the packet data network and the wireless data communication link between the packet data network and the user device. The data associating with the program is personalized based on the stored information before being transported from the remote management unit to the user devices, such that different data associating with the program is transported from the remote management unit to different users with different personal interests or preferences.

Claim 57 recites a system for presenting a program. The system includes a program representation terminal for representing the program to a user, the broadcasting system for providing the program to a user, for providing the program to the program representation terminal and a packet data communication network. A remote management unit is connected to the packet data communication network. The remote management unit includes a processor for processing data that associates with the program and a storage unit for storing information regarding the personal interests or

preferences for a plurality of users. The processor is adapted to personalized data that associates with the program based on the information regarding the respective user's personal interests or preferences. User devices are operable by the user for inputting information while experiencing the program and for inputting information. The user devices are adapted for communication over the packet data network by means of a wireless data communication link between the data communication network and the respective user device. Information is presented to the respective user based on the personalized data that associates with the program that is received via the wireless data communication link from the remote management unit while the respective user is experiencing the program. Different users with different personal interests or preferences receive from the remote management unit, different data that associates with the program.

Claim 77, upon which claims 78, 79, 82 and 83 depend, recites a system for presenting television programs. The system includes a television terminal for displaying the television program based on a program signal, a program signal provision system adapted to provide the television terminal with the program signal, and a packet data communication system. A management unit is connected to the packet switch data communication system, including a database for storing information regarding the personal interest or preferences of a plurality of viewers of a television program. A processor is adapted to personalized data associated with the television program on the basis of the stored information regarding the respective viewers' personal interests or preferences. A portable user device is adapted to be operable by the viewers while

viewing the television program and for inputting information. The portable user devices include a communication module enabling data communication over a wireless interface between the respective portable user device and the packet data communication system. The portable user devices are also adapted to present information to the respective viewer based on said personalized data that associates with the program that is received from the management unit via the packet data communication system and the wireless interface. Different viewers with different personal interests or preferences receive different data that associates with the television program. The portable user device and the management units are adapted to communicate data that associates with the television program over said wireless interface and packet data communication system at the same time when the television program is presented to the viewer based on the program signal provided through the program signal provision system.

Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims recite features that are neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the cited references.

Park is directed to an education and entertainment device with dynamic configuration and operation. Further, Park teaches wirelessly downloading personal information such as the user's name to the personal electronic device, storing the personal information in the personal electronic device and using the information stored in the personal electronic device to modify further received information such as comments directed to the user. Further, Park discloses in column 11, lines 51-59 and Figure 2 how the name of the user is loaded into a data table 60 and stored locally at the user device 12.

Further, Park discloses that the user device 12 then incorporates the name into comments directed to the child.

Dureau is directed to network smart toys. Dureau describes reprogramming a user device using programming data that is transmitted over a broadcast network. Dureau further describes how the use of a broadcast network to distribute programming information eliminates the need to establish a point-to-point connection with a manufacturer in order to download this information.

Kendricks is directed to a network controller for cable television delivery systems. The network controller manages a configuration of set top terminals in a program delivery system. The network controller modifies a program control information signal at the cable headend before the modified signal is transmitted to each set top terminal. The signal initiates upstream data retrieval, gathers all data received and compiles viewer information regarding demographics and programs watched.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest at least the feature of storing information regarding the personal interests or preferences for a plurality of users in a remote management unit, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 57 and 77. The Office Action relied on Dureau to provide this feature and cure the admitted deficiencies of Park.

However, Park and Dureau merely disclose that the uploaded information is used to modify the total amount of information that is “broadcast” (i.e., transported from the broadcast station to all user devices or associated receiving stations). Thus, it clearly

follows that the total amount of information is broadcast to all users and that the total amount of information is filtered locally at the user end based on user data. See paragraph[0012], paragraph [0051], and paragraph [0063] of Dureau. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Dureau merely is a redundant reference to Park and does not, as alleged in the Office Action cure the admitted deficiencies of Park. Thus, neither Park nor Dureau taken individually or in combination, disclose or suggest a feature to personalize information at a remote location before being transported from the remote management unit such that different data is transported from the remote management unit to different users. Further, Applicant submits that Kendricks fails to cure the deficiencies of Park and Dureau.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest at least the feature that the user devices are operable for inputting information, as recited in claims 1, 57 and 77. Instead, at best, Park describes controlling the user device to ask the user a question. See Park at column 9, lines 36-55. Further, Park merely describes controlling the user device to release a latch to open the lid or cover of a compartment provided in the user device. See Park at column 10, line 66, through column 11, line 20. Applicant notes that closing the latch is not analogous to and does not read upon, the feature of inputting information, as recited in the pending claims. Thus, Applicant submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest that the user device is operable for inputting information in reply to a question, as alleged in the Office Action.

Applicant further notes that claims 1, 57, and 77 further recite the feature that user devices include a display and keys for inputting information. A sophisticated user device that includes these features, teaches away from the teachings of Park, which is to provide a user device without a sophisticated user device but whose operation can be otherwise modified. See at least Park at column 1, line 11, through column 2, line 20.

Applicant respectfully submits that because claims 2, 4-19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28-31, 34-41, 43-46, 58, 60-72, 74, 75, 78-79, 82 and 83 depend from claims 1 and 77, these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1 and 77, as well as for the additional features recited in these dependent claims.

Based at least on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28-31, 34-41, 43-46, 57, 58, 60-72, 74, 75, 77-79, 82 and 83 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 3, 20, 25, 33 and 73 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Park, Dureau and Hendricks, in further view of US Patent No. 6,415,439 to Randell et al. (Randell). The Office Action took the position that Park, Dureau and Hendricks, disclose all of the features of these claims except for the feature of transmitting a message back to the management unit from the user device. The Office Action asserted that Randell discloses this feature. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of

the features recited in any of the above claims. Specifically, Applicant submits that Park, Dureau and Hendricks are deficient at least for the reasons stated above, and Randell fails to cure these deficiencies.

Park, Dureau, and Hendricks are discussed above. Randell is relied upon to disclose a message generated via a sensor at a user device and transporting the message back to the management unit and generating another message to be transported back to the user. The Office Action cites Randell at column 7, lines 21-37, and column 11, lines 24-36. Further, regarding claim 25, Randell is relied upon to disclose transmitting a message generated at the user device 60 and transporting the message back to the management unit and generating another message to be transported back to the user. However, Randell fails to disclose or suggest either storing user information at the remote management unit and using it to personalize data sent from the remote management unit to the user devices, or, that the user devices are operable for inputting information as recited in independent claim 1, from which dependent claim 25 depends and, therefore, inherits all the patentability distinctions thereof. Thus, Randell fails to cure the deficiencies of Park, Dureau and Hendricks.

Based at least on the above, the cited references taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 3, 20, 25, 33 and 73. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 23, 59, 86, and 89-91 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Park, Dureau, and Hendricks, in further view of US Patent No. 5,855,483 to Collins et al. (Collins). The Office Action took the position that Park, Dureau and Hendricks disclosed all of the features of these claims except the feature of a visual message. The Office Action asserted that Collins disclosed this feature. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references, taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of any of the above claims. Specifically, Park, Dureau and Hendricks are deficient at least for the same reasons discussed above, and Collins fails to cure these deficiencies. The rejection of claims 89-91 is moot in light of the cancellation of these claims.

Park, Dureau, and Hendricks are discussed above. Collins is directed to a means of interactive play with a computer. In the apparatus described in Collins, a transceiver and a control device send and receive information to and from a plaything via the transceiver to enable the plaything to provide interactive fantasy simulation of the behavior of a corresponding real-world object. However, Collins fails to disclose or suggest either of storing user information at the remote management unit and using it to personalize data sent from the remote management unit to the user devices, or, that the user devices are operable for inputting information. Thus, Collins fails to cure the deficiencies of Park, Dureau and Hendricks.

Based at least on the above, the cited references, taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 23, 59, and 86.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 27, 32, 80, and 81 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Park, Dureau and Hendricks, in further view of US Patent No. 6,049,333 to LaJoie et al. (LaJoie). The Office Action took the position that Park and Dureau disclosed all of the features of the above claims with the exception of the feature of event detection based on detection of the predefined audio or visual effect in the program. The Office Action asserted that LaJoie disclosed this feature. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in any of the pending claims. Specifically, Park, Dureau and Hendricks are deficient at least for the reasons discussed above and LaJoie fails to cure these deficiencies.

Park, Dureau, and Hendricks are discussed above. LaJoie discloses a system and method for providing an event database in a telecasting system. LaJoie is relied upon in the Office Action to disclose transmitting information to the user based on a predefined event associated with a program. The Office Action cites LaJoie at column 4, line 65, to column 5, line 17, and column 8, lines 49-61. However, LaJoie fails to disclose or suggest either of storing user information at the remote management unit and using it to personalize data sent from the remote management unit to the user devices, or, that the user devices are operable for inputting information. Thus, LaJoie fails to cure the deficiencies of Park, Dureau, and Hendricks.

Based at least on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references taken individually or in combination fails of disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 27, 32, 80 and 81. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that each of claims 1-41, 43-55, and 57-83 recite features that are neither disclose nor suggest in any of the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that each of claims 1-41, 43-55, and 57-83 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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